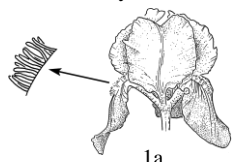


Key reworked and revised to add *Iris versicolor*.

Revised March 18, 2021

Iris L. Iris; Flag; Fleur-de-lis

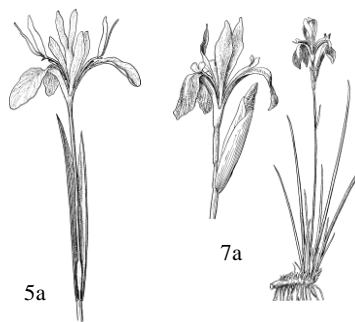
Fls 1–several, subtended by paired lf like spathes; perianth segms fused at base, forming a short to much-elongate, slender to ± flaring tube; sepals (the outer 3 perianth segms) showy, spreading to reflexed, gen pencilled with brown to purple and with a thickened ridge or line of hairs near base (signal); petals gen ascending to erect, gen narrower than the sepals; stamens opp the sepals; style brs opp the sepals and gen curved over them and concealing the stamens, gen petaloid, with 2 terminal lobes (crests), the stigma gen a short flap projecting on the lower side at base of the crests; caps fusiform to subglobose, gen coriaceous; ours rhizomatous herbs with linear, gen flattened, chiefly basal lvs and lfy to naked fl sts. (Gr name for the genus, from *Iris*, rainbow).



1a



4a



5a



7a



8a



8b

1a Sepals bearded with multicellular hairs along signal; seeds 3–4 mm; lvs 2–4 cm wide; fls various combinations of blue-purple, yellow, violet, brownish, or white; dry to mesic areas; European orn of hybrid origin, occ escaping or persisting; both sides Cas; bearded i. (*I. amoena*, *I. flavescens*, *I. neglecta*); secondary hybrids with other Eurasian spp. have been called *I. ×conglomerata* N.C. Hend. **1 I. germanica** L.

1b Sepals glab or finely pubescent with unicellular hairs along the signal; seeds 3–10 mm (if < 5 mm then leaves < 2 cm wide)

2a Sts hollow, 6–12 dm; spathes gen purplish-brown; fls dark (light) blue-purple; lvs < 1 cm wide; uncommon Eurasian orn; s BC, w WA; Siberian i. **2 I. sibirica** L.

2b Sts solid; spathes gen green or green with scarious margins; fls and lvs various

3a Seeds glossy orange-red, globose, 5–7 mm, persisting in caps after dehiscence; fls dull purplish to pale yellowish; lvs evergreen, dark green, foul-smelling when crushed; damp ground; European intro, rarely escaping cult; w WA; stinking i. **3 I. foetidissima** L.

3b Seeds light to dark brown, often flattened, shed soon after caps dehiscence; fls variously colored; lvs deciduous

4a Fls bright yellow; robust pls 7–15 dm; lvs 2–3.5 cm wide; rhizomes 2–3 cm diam; seeds 6–7 mm; wet areas and shallow water around lakes, ponds, ditches, and stream banks; invasive European intro; BC s, both sides Cas, to CA, e across most of N Am; yellow f. or i. **4 I. pseudacorus** L.

4b Fls blue to purple, pale yellow, or whitish (if pale yellow then pls of dry areas and < 5 dm); rhizomes 0.1–2 cm wide; lvs 0.2–3 cm wide; seeds 3–5 mm

5a Perianth tube 4–9 cm, linear; fls off-white to pale yellow or ± bluish-tinged; style crests long and slender, 1.5–2 cm; pls 0.5–3 dm; open woodl, mostly in ponderosa pine and Douglas fir; in and w Cas, Polk and Marion cos, OR, to nw CA, slender-tubed i. **5 I. chrysophylla** Howell

5b Perianth tube 0.3–2 cm, funnellf; fls blue to pink-purple or white to pale yellowish; style crests broadly rounded, 0.7–1.5 cm; pls 1.5–8 dm

6a Rhizomes 1–1.5(–2) cm diam, stout; roots fleshy; pls (2–)3–8 dm, mostly e Cas (w Cas only on is and prairies of n PT)

7a Stigmas retuse; lvs 0.3–1.2 cm wide; fls pale to fairly deep blue; moist meadows and stream banks, often where becoming dry in midsummer, the common sp. e Cas, w Cas only on is and prairies of n PT; s BC to s CA, e to MT, SD, NM, and s to n Mex; occ intro elsewhere; w blue f., RM i. **6 I. missouriensis** Nutt.

7b Stigmas triangular to rounded-triangular; lvs 1–3 cm wide; fls blue-purple; marshes, fens, shorelines; e N Am intro; established and spreading at Priest Lake, ID; blue i. **7 I. versicolor** L.

6b Rhizomes 1–8 mm diam; roots fibrous; pls 1.5–4 dm, exclusively w Cas, s PT s to CA

8a Lvs 2–5(–6) mm wide; rhizomes gen short-creeping and of ± uniform width, 3–8 mm wide; fl st unbr; fls mostly lavender-blue to purple, but also occ pink, white, or yellowish; caps 2.5–3.5 cm; prairies, meadows, and open woodl, lowl to upper mont; Grays Harbor Co and s PT, WA, s in w OR to nw CA, OR i.; 2 vars. **8 I. tenax** Douglas ex Lindl.

a1 Fls light yellow in all pls; st lvs 2; pls fl 2–4 weeks later than var. *tenax*; endemic to Washington and Columbia cos, OR

var. **gormanii** (Piper) R.C. Foster

a2 Fls lavender-blue to purple, pink, or occ white, rarely cream in single pls in mixed populations; st lvs (2)3; range of sp. var. **tenax**

8b Lvs 7–20 mm broad; rhizomes elongate and cordlike, 1–2 mm wide, with swollen nodes at st bases; st br in the infl; fls white (occ blue-tinged),

the signal gen purple-veined and with a patch of yellow; caps scarcely 1.5 cm; open, brushy conif for; known only from Clackamas, Marion, and Multnomah cos, OR; Clackamas i. **9 I. tenuis** S. Watson